

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1400

By Mr. Kocot of Northampton, petition of Peter V. Kocot for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the population and control of fishing for Bluefin Tuna. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO BLUEFIN TUNA.

1     *Resolved*, There is hereby created a special commission to  
2 study the existing bluefin tuna fishery in Massachusetts coastal  
3 waters, to promote the continued viability of the species, to  
4 restore a significant population of giant bluefin tuna, to examine  
5 the economic and biological impacts of different fishing tech-  
6 niques, such as hook and line, traditional harpooning and purse  
7 seining and to examine the interaction of commercial and recre-  
8 ational bluefin tuna fisheries. Said special commission shall com-  
9 pile and evaluate historical data on the frequency, location and  
10 size distribution of bluefin tuna taken in Massachusetts waters and  
11 the fishing techniques used. Said special commission shall be  
12 comprised of three members of the house of representatives, to be  
13 appointed by the speaker, two members of the senate, to be  
14 appointed by the senate president, and seven members to be  
15 appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be representative of  
16 commercial purse seine tuna fishing interests, one of whom shall  
17 be representative of commercial traditional harpooning of tuna  
18 interests, one of whom shall be representative of commercial hook  
19 and line tuna fishing interests, one of whom shall be representa-  
20 tive of recreational tuna fishing interests, one of whom shall be  
21 representative of the division of coastal zone management, one of  
22 whom shall be representative of the division of marine fisheries  
23 and one of whom shall be representative of the marine trades  
24 industry. Said special commission may conduct its meetings at

25 facilities of the commonwealth located in coastal communities  
26 and shall report its findings to the committee on natural resources,  
27 the division of marine fisheries and the division of coastal zone  
28 management no later than November 30, 2005.